

**From:** Elias Lutfallah  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 11:13am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Hello,

If the goal of the settlement is to end the Microsoft monopoly, then the proposed settlement is inadequate for the task.

One of the proposed items as I understand is to require Microsoft to open their code to allow handheld devices, servers, and networks so that smaller companies have a chance to compete. Initially this may help companies get a foothold in the industry, but ultimately this will only reinforce the Microsoft stranglehold on the world as it relies on the existence of Microsoft.

One practice of Microsoft has been to "embrace and extend" publicly accepted protocols. For instance they may take the publicly discussed and agreed upon protocol for wireless networking, and add their own features. While the features may or may not be worthwhile, by disregarding the RFC for the given protocol, they now have their own proprietary protocol that undermines the rest of the industry.

I suggest that any changes to a standard set by the RFC process that they wish to implement must be proposed and accepted into the RFC standard before acting on the change. At least this way people would have a chance to react and influence the desires of Microsoft, as well as be prepared for changes.

This is just one aspect of the settlement that I have chosen to respond to, hoping that my contemporaries will address the other issues.

Thank you for your time,

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